As of Friday, March 13th, 2020, anyone that calls into La Porte County E911 with a medical complaint of Difficulty Breathing, Chest Pain, Headache, or general sickness will be screened for COVID-19 with a series of questions. These questions are designed to give first responders advanced notice a patient has COVID-19 symptoms.

A common misconception by many of our callers is that our questions delays the dispatching of Fire and EMS. This series of questions will not delay help. It will however make sure that the appropriate resources are dispatched with the ability to wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This will actually save time when it matters the most.

Your 911 dispatchers have been working with COVID-19 questions for the last couple of weeks in preparation that we may get to this point. They have had the new protocol available for training the moment this was decided.

As this situation develops rest assured your 911 dispatchers are vigilant and prepared for this endeavor.

